BOARD OF WORLD PEACE
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"Peace, like bread, must be made afresh, daily."

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Methodist Peace COURIER

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BOARD OF WORLD PEACE
OF
THE METHODIST CHURCH
740 RUSH STREET, CHICAGO 11, ILLINOIS
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Dear Pastor:

This is the single Annual Mailing to you from the Board of World Peace for you and your church program. Please discuss it with your Commission on Christian Social Relations (or peace committee).

Enclosed in this mailing, in addition to the September COURIER, are the World Order Sunday folder (for November 9) and the UNICEF Halloween project leaflet "The Trick is to Treat."

I believe each Commission will find one subscription to COURIER invaluable. The excellent "how to" departmental columns of The Methodist Story are limited by editorial policy to helps and methods, with no content or interpretation. COURIER adds the Christian viewpoint to methods.

Use the order form on page 4 for this subscription and to secure other key materials for your Commission. Note also the Peace Calendar on page 3.

Sincerely,
Daniel E. Taylor
Daniel E. Taylor
General Secretary

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TOY GRENADES

A baby sitter of our acquaintance had a nerve-jangling experience the other night. A 4-year-old tot in her charge, having duly been put to bed, reappeared and with a look of desperation demanded:

"Where are my hand grenades? I can't go to sleep without my hand grenades."

There followed much scurrying and searching, and in due course a couple of soft plastic toys showed up, realistically shaped in the form of grenades. The youngster clutched them gratefully and dropped off to sleep.

Whether the child knew what real grenades are is a moot point. The mere fact that a tot clutches toy hand grenades as security symbols writes its own commentary on our civilization.

—Chicago Daily News

PROTEST AGAINST MISSILES BASE

During much of the summer a small team of Christian pacifists has been working in Cheyenne, Wyoming, to arouse the people of that community to a sense of moral concern and opposition to the construction of the nation's first Atlas missile launching site nearby.

On August 18, 1958, four persons distributed leaflets, talked with workers, and stood in the way of machines. Some were removed by physical force from the path of trucks, offering no resistance. Subsequently, warrants were issued for their arrest.

On August 19 members of the team continued their efforts. One truck driver deliberately drove at slow speed into one man seated on the road. He stopped, but when called "chicken" by his companions, backed up and drove again into the demonstrator.

The young person injured is Kenneth Calkins, son of Rev. Charles L. Calkins, General Secretary of the Methodist Board of Pensions, and Mrs. Dorothy Calkins, Midwest Secretary of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. His parents have stated their support for his action. At this writing, he has been released from the hospital and is recuperating in the Laramie County Jail, Cheyenne, Wyoming, where he may be addressed by persons wishing to communicate with him. Mrs. Kenneth Calkins and three other demonstrators have been arrested and sentenced to $100 fine or 100 days in jail.

The purpose of the demonstration is "to attempt to stop the missile race before it becomes uncontrollable" by calling the attention of the public to the moral issues involved in the development and use of intercontinental ballistic missiles.

WHY PROTESTANTS SHUN POLITICS

Protestants are "disorganized, profuse and feeble" in politics, a professor of religion recently said.

Politics ought to be "a Christian vocation," said Dr. E. Clinton Gardner, professor of Christian ethics at the Candler School of Theology, Emory University. But too often it isn't.

Dr. Gardner listed several reasons for Protestant inactivity. These included:

The belief that politics is dirty business.

A failure to understand the nature of political power, which leads many to think that voting is enough activity.

A fear of organizations and co-operative efforts to influence public policy. Many Protestants, he said, prefer to be "individualistic and moralistic."

A fear of controversy and its possible penalties.

A fear of compromise and "a desire to maintain one's own personal purity."

The stereotyping of political problems into "pat slogans and cliches," thus covering up the real issues.

THE HUMAN FACTOR IN WAR

"Rational pacifism is based on an error. By rational pacifism I mean the opinion that if only men clearly understood the terrors of war, they would put an end to it and to all war preparations. This implies that the continuation of war danger is due only to the blindness of politicians. Why, then, are there still blind politicians? The truth is that wars are only paroxysms of conflicts which smolder in the irrational depths of human nature. Wars break out because in truth men want them—even though they imagine they do not.

"Those who want peace will have to make great efforts and sacrifices, not smaller than those people have made in the past to win wars. It can be said: Peace does not come cheaper than war."—*C. F. von Weizsacker*

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CHURCH AND STATE

free church, voluntarily supported and maintained in a free democracy, has a real role in the life he nation. The function of the Church, to describe quately its responsibility, is comprised of five basic tionships.

he Church *supports* the State, when the latter is it and its program just and desirable. The Church *ourages* the State when sound policies and proms are offered; but the purpose to carry them out vers or there is lack of popular support. The Church *icizes* the State, when State goes astray or proves rue to valid intentions. The Church *supplements* State in those informal, personal interests which best carried out by voluntary efforts in the spirit compassion and charity. The Church is the *contri-n* of the State. Diplomacy must always sustain the icies of State as right and proper before the world d hence both leaders and people may fall into pride d self-certitude.

To support and to encourage is easy and pleasant; proval arouses no opposition. But the Church as the nscience of the body-politic is no enviable task. Nody likes a conscience. Moreover, censure, even kindgiven, may be misunderstood. No duty lays upon urchmen so careful a demand.

When the Church tries to speak as the honest emdiment of God's justice, it must above all be fair d impartial. It must not merely echo the party out power. It must not merely criticize and enroll itself nwittingly with the cynics. Moreover, in witnessing npartially, it must reckon with "outside" opponents the nation who are not above borrowing the church hrases to which they add their own content.

STRANGE PARTNERS IN SECURITY

A church fifty feet below ground is being planned or the Swedish city of Vasteras. The project will answer two needs of this rapidly growing industrial city —an A-bomb-"proof" shelter and a new church. With 0,000 inhabitants, Vasteras has at present one State hurch, the 700-year-old cathedral. According to plans, nly the belfry will project above ground. It will be onnected by stairs and elevators with the underground church, which will seat 500. Parish hall, offices nd other premises will also be below ground.

—American-Swedish News Exchange

METHODIST PEACE CALENDAR • Fall 1958

September
Sept. 16 or 26 Opening of 13th UN Assembly

October
Oct. 19-25 United Nations Week
Oct. 24 UN Day

November
Nov. 4 Elections: Exercise Christian Citizenship
Nov. 9 World Order Sunday

December
Dec. 10 Tenth Anniversary Human Rights Day

YEAR AGAINST HUNGER

Some months ago the British Government suggested that the Geophysical Year be extended an additional twelve months as a "year against hunger." That proposal has now been made by Director General B. R. Sen of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization. Crop failures, rainy harvests, contrasted with surpluses in Canada and the United States, make food a timely concern abroad.

More than two-thirds of the people of the world are undernourished, according to Mr. Defavre, in briefing our Churchmen's Peace Tour at the FAO headquarters in Rome during July.

The long-range problem in the face of the population explosion is being tackled in earnest by several educational and scientific groups. Three hopeful areas are algae production in the seas, bacteria cultures and yeast production. Micro-organisms can produce from one acre of farm land ten times as much protein as by raising cattle on the land. Yeast promises to be an even greater protein source. A 1,000 pound steer adds one pound of beef in twenty-four hours, but the same weight of yeast can produce 100,000 pounds of high-grade protein in the same time.

PEOPLE FOR PEACE

A second important Arden House Conference on Disarmament was held recently and its report has just been released. Several major recommendations emerged from the meeting. Of special interest was the suggestion of Mr. Alfred Brookes, of the Australian Institute of International Affairs, that an international panel of distinguished citizens of many lands be set up. They would not only keep in touch with one another but could report to the world their judgments on factors making for peace or war, disarmament or intensification of the arms race. Dr. Erich Fromm suggested such a committee for the USA.

Actually a kindred idea had already appeared in significant form. A peace council in Tampa, headed by a leading physician, Dr. Richard C. Rodgers, formulated earlier this year a resolution requesting the President to appoint a national commission of distinguished scholars from all major segments of American life to work with him and the Department of State to bring their insights to bear directly on the problems of peace, with the hope of offering new and creative solutions. As one of its functions, this commission would draft a "peoples to peoples" plan for peace. Similar commissions in other nations would be formed to serve comparable aims.

A PRAYER FOR PEACE

Almighty God, our Father, maker and preserver of an orderly universe, look down, we beseech thee upon this disorderly world in which we live and which we have created by the conflicts of our selfish interests and by our forgetfulness that all men are brothers, being sons of thine.

Enter into the hearts and minds of the heads of governments that they may seek and find, with thy guidance and direction, ways and means of resolving international conflicts and of establishing and preserving peace on earth and good will among men.

For Christ's sake, Amen.—*Frank Lamont Meleny, M.D.*

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AFFAIRS AFAR

AUSTRALIA: Scientist E. L. Deacon reports that the sixth bomb blast in the summer series set off by the United States at Eniwetok set up the biggest shock waves yet recorded and an atmospheric disturbance like that of the 1908 meteor that devastated a wide area in Siberia. Senator Mansfield of Montana recently pointed out that "to detonate one such bomb it is necessary to clear about 400,000 square miles of the Pacific . . . an area three times the size of Montana." Two troposphere blasts were also in the series; one over Johnston Island was visible as a brilliant flash to bathers at Honolulu's Waikiki Beach, 700 miles distant.

CALIFORNIA: Private Peter Green, who asked recognition as a conscientious objector while serving in the Marine Corps, has been transferred from Camp Pendleton to Camp Elliott. As a result his treatment has improved noticeably. While at Pendleton, he was court-martialed twice, once for making derogatory statements to the press and the second time for refusing to obey an order during the exercise period for segregated prisoners.

The convening authority has reduced his two-year prison sentence on the first charge to one year, but the four-month sentence on the second charge plus the bad conduct discharge on both points still stand. The review board has yet to consider his case. His presidential appeal through channels for recognition as a conscientious objector is still pending.

DES MOINES: Rev. M. Everett Dorr, Iowa chairman of UNICEF and peace chairman of his annual conference, was named to the United States Committee for UNICEF in recognition of his leadership in previous UNICEF drives.

NEW YORK: Emery M. Nelson, executive secretary of the International YMCA, speaking to laymen of the New York Conference, stated recently, "The Russians are giving everything they have to capture the minds of the youth of the world. We have 37,000 foreign students in America, but 355,000 foreign students are studying in Russia, most of them with government subsidies."

CHICAGO: According to Professor Mervin B. Freedman, a research expert, studies show that "college students predict another major war within a dozen years, yet international problems are the least of the concerns to which they expect to give much personal attention during their immediate future."

NEW YORK: Charles S. Rhyne, president of the American Bar Association, advocated recently a much wider use of the International Court of Justice and the removal of some of its sessions to the United Nations. "The entire court, or even a chamber, should sit constantly at UN headquarters," he says. "The Law then would move more to the forefront in the deliberations of the UN."

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